

Remarks

Claims 1 - 13 remain in the application. Reconsideration of this application and the amendments is requested.

Objections to the

The drawings have been objected to as informal. Formal drawings will be submitted upon indication of allowable subject matter.


Rejections under 35 USC 103

Claims 1 and 3 - 13 stand rejected as obvious in view of Hsu et al. The reference teaches the use of an optical scanner to create an image of the ridges and valleys on the surface of a fingerprint. This image is compared to an archived image in the fingerprint matching device. If the pictures match, the doors and settings are opened and if they don't the entry fails.

In contrast, the amended claims recite a completely different mapping system based on the reception of a pattern produced by an electrical current passing through a finger in close proximity to an antennae array. The Examiner's attention is directed to disclosure at the bottom of page 8 and the top of page 9 of the specification. The resulting statistical or digital pattern is a more secure source of information than a surface fingerprint which can be duplicated with finger molds.

There is no teaching in the Hsu et al patent that would enable one of ordinary skill in the art to make a sensor as is now claimed.

Claim 2 stands rejected as obvious in view of Hsu et al and Gallagher. This combination of references fails to teach the claimed invention for the reasons given above. The combination fails to teach electrical mapping of the structure of the finger.


C. Fred Rosenbaum
Registration No. 27110 9-10-03

McHale & Slavin, P.A.
2855 PGA Blvd.
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410
Tel 561-625-6575
Fax 561-625-6572
e-mail palmbeach@m spatents.com

In the Claims:

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Claim 1. (Currently amended) A print access security system for authorization to operate a vehicle comprising a fingerprint enrollment and verification module, FEVM, adapted for electrical connection to the electrical system of a vehicle, said FEVM having an opening of sufficient size to accept a finger, a sensor means mounted in said opening of said FEVM to ~~capture~~ receive a statistical pattern of the underlying structure of the finger ~~fingerprint image~~ for authorization to operate the vehicle.

Claim 2. (Currently amended) A print access security system of claim 1 wherein said FEVM has a flash memory and a plurality of preselectable modes, one of said modes being an FEVM enrollment mode, said FEVM enrollment mode transforms said ~~fingerprint image~~ statistical pattern to a template, ~~said template having statistical information about said fingerprint image,~~ said template communicated to said flash memory for archiving said fingerprint template.

Claim 3. (Currently amended) A print access security system of claim 2 wherein said FEVM preselectable modes includes a FEVM verification mode wherein said FEVM applies ~~said statistical information of~~ said archived template to a current

~~fingerprint image~~ statistical pattern captured by said sensor means.

Claim 4. (Currently amended) A print access security system of claim 3 wherein operation of a vehicle is denied by said FEVM when said archived template and said current ~~image~~ statistical pattern do not match.

Claim 5. (Currently amended) A print access security system of claim 4 wherein operation of a vehicle is permitted by said FEVM when said archived template and said current ~~image~~ statistical pattern match.

Claim 6. (Original) A print access security system of claim 4 wherein said vehicle has passenger doors, said FEVM mounted on one of said passenger doors, said FEVM electrically wired into the electrical system of said vehicle, said opening facing outwardly exposing said sensor means.

Claim 7. (Currently amended) A print access security system of claim 6 wherein said vehicle has an electrical door lock circuit and said passenger doors have electrically powered door locks connected to said electrical door lock circuit, said FEVM is electrically connected to said door lock circuit, said

FEVM acting as a switch in said circuit, said switch not activating said circuit when said template and said ~~image~~ statistical pattern do not match.

Claim 8. (Currently amended) A print access security system of claim 5 wherein said vehicle has passenger doors and an electrical door lock circuit, said doors including electrically powered door locks connected to said electrical door lock circuit, said FEVM is electrically connected to said door lock circuit, said FEVM acting as a switch in said circuit, said switch activating said circuit when said template and said ~~image~~ statistical pattern match.

Claim 9. (Original) A print access security system of claim 8 wherein said FEVM energizes said door locks and unlocks said doors.

Claim 10. (Original) A print access security system of claim 3 wherein said FEVM is mounted in said vehicle and said FEVM is electrically wired into the electrical system of said vehicle, said opening facing outwardly exposing said sensor means.

Claim 11. (Currently amended) A print access security system of claim 10 wherein said vehicle electrical system includes circuits to a multiplicity of subsidiary systems, said FEVM having a plurality of selectable modes corresponding to said circuits, said FEVM connected to each of said circuits, said FEVM acting as a switch in said circuits, said FEVM not activating a corresponding circuit when a particular mode is selected and said template and said current ~~image~~ statistical pattern do not match.

Claim 12. (Currently amended) A print access security system of claim 11 wherein said FEVM activates a corresponding circuit when a particular mode is selected and said current ~~image~~ statistical pattern and said template match.

Claim 13. (Original) A print access security system of claim 12 wherein said FEVM energizes said circuit and operates said subsidiary system.